

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 258

To prohibit oil and gas leasing on the National Forest System land in the Ruby Mountains Ranger District located in the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Elko and White Pine Counties, Nevada, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 29, 2019

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To prohibit oil and gas leasing on the National Forest System land in the Ruby Mountains Ranger District located in the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Elko and White Pine Counties, Nevada, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Ruby Mountains Pro-
5 tection Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION OF OIL AND GAS LEASING.**

7 (a) **DEFINITION OF DISTRICT LAND.**—In this sec-
8 tion, the term “District land” means the approximately

1 450,000 acres of National Forest System land comprising
2 the Ruby Mountains Ranger District of the Humboldt-
3 Toiyabe National Forest, Elko and White Pine Counties,
4 Nevada, as in existence on the date of enactment of this
5 Act.

6 (b) PROHIBITION.—Subject to valid existing rights in
7 existence on the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-
8 retary of the Interior shall not issue under any law, includ-
9 ing the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 181 et seq.), an
10 oil or gas lease on the District land.

11 (c) APPLICATION.—The prohibition under subsection
12 (b) shall apply to any land or interest in land that is ac-
13 quired by the United States after the date of enactment
14 of this Act for inclusion in the Ruby Mountains Ranger
15 District.

○